



MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
COMMITTEE
45th session
Agenda item 8

MEPC 45/8/2
25 July 2000
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PREVENTION OF AIR POLLUTION FROM SHIPS

Progress report on follow-up activities

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This note provides a progress report on follow-up activities to the 1997 MARPOL Conference since last Meeting of the Committee.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 9

Related documents: DE 43/11, MSC 72/23 and MEPC 44/20

Introduction

1 The Committee will recall that, at its forty-first session, it considered a draft follow-up programme based on the request made by the 1997 MARPOL Conference and the Kyoto Conference of Parties to UNFCCC. The follow-up action programme included a number of guidelines called for in Annex VI to MARPOL 73/78 and the NO_x Technical Code. The Committee instructed FP, FSI, and DE Sub-Committees to develop these guidelines.

2 At its forty-second session the Committee instructed the Secretariat to initiate an IMO Study on Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Ships. At its last session the Committee received an oral presentation on the preliminary findings of the Study. The final report on the outcome of the Study has been submitted to this session under the cover of document MEPC 45/8.

Communication with UNFCCC

3 At its last session the Committee noted the outcome of the fifth session of the Conference of Parties (COP5) to UNFCCC, and the eleventh session of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 11). As instructed by the Committee, the Secretariat informed SBSTA 12, held from 12 to 16 June 2000, in Bonn, Germany on the outcome of the Committee's considerations at its last session.

4 The information provided was noted, with appreciation, by SBSTA 12, which decided to discuss the issue on emissions from international transport at its next session to be held from 11 to 15 September 2000, in Lyon, France. It is the intention of the Secretariat to attend SBSTA 12. An oral report on the outcome of that meeting will be provided to the Committee.

5 SBSTA 12 also noted that the Secretariat of UNFCCC has been invited to participate in meetings of the Committee.

Outcome of DE 43

6 The Sub-Committee agreed to the draft Guidelines for the sampling of fuel oil for combustion purposes delivered for use on board ships as set out in annex 7 of document DE 43/18/Add.1, in the understanding that Parties to the Protocol of 1997 to MARPOL 73/78 will be invited to use the guidelines upon entry into force of the Protocol. The Sub-Committee invited the Committee at this session to consider the draft Guidelines with a view to approval and subsequent appropriate action (MEPC 45/9/1, paragraph 2.1).

7 With regard to guidelines for on-board NO_x monitoring and recording devices, the Sub Committee considered a proposal by Germany to prolong the deadline for submission of any additional contributions until 1 October 2000. After this date Germany would compile the information received into a consolidated document for submission to the next session of the Sub-Committee to facilitate its consideration on the issue. The Sub-Committee agreed to invite MEPC 45 to urge Member Governments and observer organisations to submit relevant information to the Focal Point in Germany (MEPC 45/9/1, paragraph 2.3).

Outcome of MSC 72

8 MSC 72 considered the outcome of the Sub-Committee on Fire Protection at its forty-fourth session on its deliberations on the prohibition of the use of perfluorocarbons (PFCs) in shipboard fire-extinguishing systems and, having endorsed the Sub-Committee's view that there are no essential uses of PFCs in shipboard fire-extinguishing systems, approved the proposed regulation 10.4.1.3 of the draft revised SOLAS chapter II-2, prohibiting the use of PFCs in new shipboard fire-extinguishing systems. In view of the above decision, the MSC 72, noting that a similar draft amendment was also proposed for the existing SOLAS regulation II-2/5, agreed that there was no need to amend that regulation since the date of enforcement of such an amendment would be the same as for the revised chapter. MSC 72 invited the Committee to concur with this action (MSC 72/23, paragraph 12.16).

Action requested of the Committee

9 The Committee is invited to take note of the above information and, in particular, to concur with the action taken by MSC 72 with regard to the prohibition on the use of PFCs in new shipboard fire-extinguishing systems.
